

REMARKS

Claim 19 is pending.

Claims 1-18 and 20-34 are cancelled.

Changes in the Claims:

Claim 19 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Therefore, claim 19 was rewritten in independent form including the limitations of previously presented claims 15, 16, and 18.

The examiner previously objected to claims 1-34 for the informality of replacing “a vent valve” with --one or more vent valves-- to provide proper antecedent basis for the depending claims. As presented, claim 19, does not require this informality to be corrected since the previously depending claims did not require “one or more vent valves”.

The amendments are supported by the specification as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Conclusion

For all of the above reasons, applicants submit that the amended claim is now in proper form, and that the amended claim defines all patentable subject matter over the prior art. Therefore, Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance.

Request for allowance

It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.


Extension of Time

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3), applicant(s) hereby request and authorize the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to (1) treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for extension of time as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time and (2) charge all required fees, including extension of time fees and fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17, to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

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Louis B. Tran
Reg. No. 56,459

12400 Wilshire Blvd.
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300